

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's #
100-6

USGS Quad
Whitman

Area

Form #
26

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Town **Hanson**

Place

Address **89 East Washington Street**

Historic Name **Cushing House**

Use: Present **residence**

Original **residence**

Date **before 1830 or c. 1720-30**

Source **maps & White's Houses**

Style/Form **Federal/center chimney**

Architect **N/A**

Exterior Material:

Foundation

Wall/Trim **clapboard & shingle**

Roof **asphalt**

Outbuildings **none**

Major Alterations **see description**

Condition **excellent**

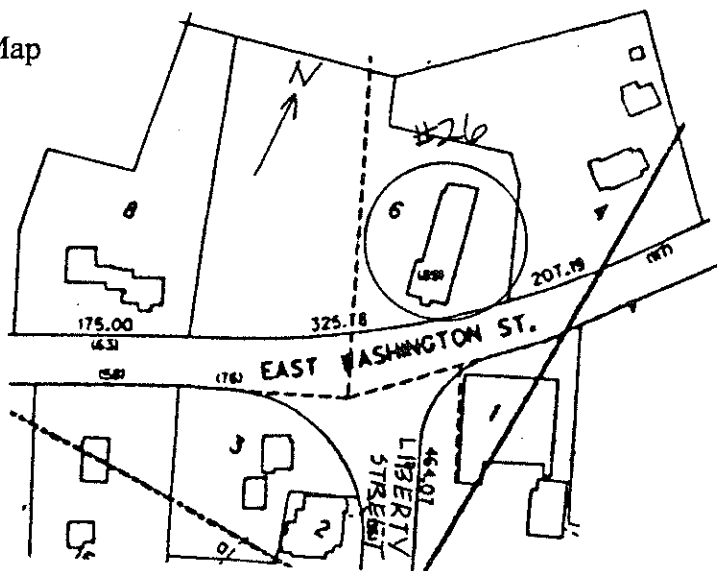
Moved **no**

Acreage **1.74 acres**

Setting **clustered residential**



Sketch Map



Recorded by **Dempsey/Driemeyer**

Organization **Hanson Historical
Commission**

Date **April 1996**

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Cushing House at 89 East Washington Street is a well-preserved, large-scale, two-and-one-half story center chimney house in the Federal style. This type of house was popular in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries throughout New England. They were constructed primarily in the five-bay, center-entry variation, of which the Cushing House is a characteristic example. This symmetrically fenestrated facade has a hip-roofed porch screening the enclosed entry porch. The double-pile interior layout is considerably augmented by a two-story service ell and an extended two-story addition. A one-story addition fills the re-entrant angle between the main mass and service ell. The decorative detailing is uncharacteristically elaborate suggesting it may date to the late nineteenth century. The classically derived ornamentation includes Tuscan columns on the added front porch, pent hoods above entablatures on the facade's first story windows and the gable-end windows, and a boxed cornice. Characteristically of an eighteenth-century dwelling, the house is sited extremely close to the street at a major three-way intersection.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The area around the intersection of Spring and Washington streets has been one of Hanson's more densely settled areas since the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Consequently a diverse range of characteristic house forms and styles are present in this area (see Area form A). The Cushing House is one of Hanson's most historic houses and is said to date to the 1720s or early 1730s. Joseph White indicates the house was built in 1730 by Elijah Cushing. Additional research is necessary to confirm the early construction date. The house remained in the Cushing family for nearly two hundred years and the intersection of Liberty and Washington streets was once known as Cushing Corners. In the 1920s the house was acquired by Frank E. Cummings, who operated a garage (razed 1949-50) immediately to the west of the house.

REFERENCES

- Smith, Plan of Hanson, 1830
- Walling, Map of Hanson, 1856
- Walker, Atlas of Plymouth County, 1879
- Richards, Atlas of Plymouth County, 1903
- White, Houses of Hanson
- Town of Hanson Valuation Lists, 1834, 1856, 1879, 1903

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. See NR Criteria Statement form.

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Community
Hanson

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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Check all that apply:

☒ Individually eligible.

☐ Eligible only in a historic district.

☐ Contributing to a potential district.

☐ Potential historic district.

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by **Dempsey/Driemeyer**.

This property is significant as a well-preserved example of early building patterns in the town of Hanson, in a settlement configuration distinctive to the town and probably the region. Among the best examples of its type in town, it may be individually eligible but should be evaluated for its role in potential districts when its neighbors can be examined more carefully. In addition, the date traditionally assigned to its construction suggests it should be reviewed during the First Period survey to be conducted in 1996/97. The property meets criteria A and C at the local level and retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.